

Money well spent?

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“For where your treasure is, there your heart will be also.” – Matthew 6:21

I was at the Mega Church last Sunday when the lead pastor announced they had taken in over \$10,000 in the collection.

“Wow!” I thought to myself. “That’s great. I wonder how many hungry people \$10,000 will feed? Or how many sick people will be able to go to the doctor? Or how many homeless people will have a place to sleep?”

This was exciting. As I was making my way out of the sanctuary, I ran into the church treasurer. “\$10,000, right?” I inquired, hardly able to contain my enthusiasm. “That will sure go a long way to help the needy, right?”

He paused for a moment and then said “It should. Hopefully, we’ll have some left over once we pay our expenses.”

This kind of caught me by surprise. “What do you mean?” I asked naively. “What expenses?”

“You know, we’re still paying for that new sound system,” he explained. “And our state-of-the-art lighting system. Those things aren’t cheap.”

He went on to tell me about the new addition to the auditorium, the mortgage payment on the complex, along with the utilities, the cable and internet bills.

Then he mentioned the competitive salaries of the pastors, associate pastors, worship directors, youth ministers, coordinators, clerical and janitorial staff, etc., and their medical insurance.

“And you know one of the deacons needed a jacuzzi because of his bad back.”

“Finally, there’s the Mega Church Convention next month in Las Vegas,” he added. “Airfare and hotels aren’t cheap.”

All this caught me by surprise.

“So how much of the \$10,000 will actually go to help the poor and less fortunate?” I asked.

“Probably around \$22.”

I wonder if this is what Jesus envisioned? Asking for a friend.

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